



ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE
Sanitary Condition
OF THE
BOROUGH OF POOLE,
UNDER THE
URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY AND THE
POOLE PORT SANITARY AUTHORITY,
For the Year ended 31st December, 1908.

PRINTED BY ORDER OF THE URBAN AND PORT
SANITARY AUTHORITIES.

GEORGE H. CARRINGTON,
M.R.C.S. (England), L.S.A. (London), D.P.H. (Honours), R.C.P.S.I.
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

POOLE :

W. S. HALLETT, GENERAL PRINTER, 22, MARKET PLACE.



ANNUAL REPORTS, 1908.

To the Poole Town Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Sixth Annual Report of the health of the Borough of Poole, comprising the Parishes of St. James', Parkstone, Longfleet, Branksome and Hamworthy for the year ending December 31st, 1908.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The area of the Borough is 7,931 acres (not including 2,200 acres of tidal water and foreshore), distributed amongst the different parishes as follows:—

		ACRES.
Parish of St. James'	-	153
„ Longfleet	-	1265
„ Parkstone	-	2838
„ Hamworthy	-	1077
„ Branksome	-	2598
		<hr/>
		7931

Borough of Poole (less inland water) 7852 acres.

The number of houses and the population of the Borough at the Census of 1901 were as follows:—

	<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>Population, 1901.</i>	<i>Population estimated to middle of year 1908.</i>
St. James'	- 1031	7670	8050
Longfleet	- 915	4159	5050
Parkstone	- 1338	6550	8300
Hamworthy	- 242	1084	1550
Branksome	- 2170	8095	10050
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	- 5696	27558	33000
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Average number of persons per house 4·8.

POPULATION.—I have estimated the population to the middle of the year 1908 as 33,000. I have obtained, by the kindness of the Assistant Overseers, the number of the inhabited houses in the different parishes, and taken the average number of persons as 4·8 per house, as at the Census of 1901.

BIRTHS.—The number of births registered during the year was 880—431 boys and 449 girls, including 38 illegitimate births. The birth-rate was 26·6 per 1000, as compared with 30 per 1000 in 1906, and 27·5 in 1907. The natural increase, that is, the excess of births over deaths during the year, was 421; in 1906 it was 476; and in 1907, 468.

The monthly returns of Births were as follows :—

	BOYS.	GIRLS.	TOTAL.
January	42	45	87
February	37	37	74
March	33	35	68
April	27	39	66
May	40	42	82
June	47	46	93
July	34	40	74
August	40	35	75
September	40	34	74
October	29	37	66
November	35	29	64
December	27	30	57
Total	<u>431</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>880</u>

The Births registered in the different parishes were :—

St. James'	-	-	219
Longfleet	-	-	125
Parkstone	-	-	189
Hamworthy	-	-	31
Branksome	-	-	316
			<u>880</u>

DEATHS.—The number of deaths registered during 1908 was 457, 236 males and 221 females. The death-rate was 13·8 per 1000, and the corrected death-rate, after deducting 10 deaths of non-residents occurring in public institutions in the borough, and adding one death of a resident in the borough who died in a public institution at Weymouth, was 13·5 per 1000. The death-rate in 1906 was 15·1 per 1000, and in 1907 13·1 per 1000. During 1908 there were 30 more deaths and 17 less births than in 1907.

The average age at death was 42 years, as compared with 40 in 1906, and 43 years in 1907.

The monthly returns of death were:—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
January	21	22	43
February	22	24	46
March	24	27	51
April	17	16	33
May	26	9	35
June	17	19	36
July	16	13	29
August	19	22	41
September	21	18	39
October	12	15	27
November	24	16	40
December	17	20	37
	<hr/> 236	<hr/> 221	<hr/> 457

The vital statistics of whole district for the years 1906, 1907, and 1908 are shewn in Table I.

In Table II are given vital statistics of separate localities in 1908 and previous year.

In Table IV, the causes of death at all ages are tabulated, and in Table V the infantile mortality.

Ages at Death.—

Under 12 months	-	87
Between 1 year and 5 years	-	43
„ 5 years and 15 „	-	26
„ 15 „ 25 „	-	13
„ 25 „ 65 „	-	135
65 years and upwards	-	153
Total	-	<hr/> 457

The various parishes and hospitals were credited with the following number of deaths:—

	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.
St. James'	92	115	113	128
Parkstone	110	123	112	103
Longfleet	54	40	45	57
Hamworthy	12	18	14	11
Branksome	132	78	142	100
Poole Harbour	—	1	2	2
Alderney Fever Hospital	9	11	2	2
Cornelia and Union Hospitals	48	41	55	41
	<hr/> 457	<hr/> 427	<hr/> 485	<hr/> 444

The prevalence of cold northerly and easterly winds during the year, with sudden changes of temperature, has been especially fatal to young children and old people. There were 87 deaths under the age of 12 months as compared with 68 in 1907. Of the deaths (65 years and upwards), 80 were between 70 and 80 years of age, and 38 between 80 and 90 years. The earliest age of death certified was three minutes. Two deaths were notified of persons of 92 years of age.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—There were 87 deaths of children under one year of age, which gives an infantile mortality of 98·8 per 1000 registered births. In 1907, there were 68 deaths, with a mortality of 75·9; and in 1906, 114 deaths, with a mortality of 118·6 per 1000 births. The increase this year is due to the prevalence of measles and whooping cough, with bronchitis and pneumonia, which occur chiefly in neglected cases of measles. I consider that if your Council adopted the Notification of Births' Act, 1907, much good might be done by the Voluntary Health Visitors of the Mothers' League, who are willing to visit any persons desiring it, and to give advice about the rearing and feeding of children. As more than one-third of the infantile deaths are notified in children under one month, it is most desirable that the mothers should be visited and instructed in the feeding and proper management of infants as early as possible. Births need not now be registered for six weeks, but if the Act was adopted, it is compulsory on the medical man or parent to notify the birth to the Medical Officer of Health within 48 hours.

In Table V is given the causes of the infantile mortality.

It will be seen from Table II that 36 per cent. of the total cases occurred in St. James' district, 13 per cent. in Longfleet, 14 per cent. in Parkstone, 36 per cent. in Branksome, and 1 per cent. in Hamworthy.

ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATE.—The Zymotic Death-rate is based on the deaths from the "seven chief Zymotic diseases," viz., small-pox, measles, whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever, fever (chiefly enteric), and diarrhoea. I give below a table with deaths from these diseases for the last four years.

	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.
Small-pox	—	—	—	—
Measles	11	2	14	1
Whooping Cough	12	1	8	5
Diphtheria	10	19	9	6
Scarlet Fever	1	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	2	4	1	8
Diarrhoea	4	2	10	1
	40	28	42	21

The Zymotic death rate for 1908 was 1·21 per 1000; in 1907, 0·86; in 1906, 1·31; and in 1905, 1·00. This death-rate is frequently quoted as a test of the sanitary condition of a town. In 1906 and 1908, the death-rate was increased by the prevalence amongst young children of measles and whooping cough. A high death-rate from enteric fever is a much more serious reflection on the health of a town than a high death-rate from measles or whooping cough.

Annual Death-rates per 1000 from Zymotic Diseases:—

	1908.	1907.
Measles - - -	·33	·06
Whooping Cough - -	·36	·03
Scarlet Fever - - -	·03	·00
Enteric Fever - - -	·06	·12
Diphtheria - - -	·30	·58
Diarrhœa - - -	·12	·06

The following table shews the birth rates, death-rates, zymotic death-rates and infantile mortality rates of England and Wales in 1908:—

	<i>Annual Rates per 1000 living.</i>			<i>Infantile Mortality.</i>
	<i>Births.</i>	<i>Deaths from all causes.</i>	<i>Deaths from chief Zymotic Diseases.</i>	<i>Annual Death-rate of Infants under 1 year per 1000 births.</i>
England and Wales ..	26·5	14·7	1·29	121
76 Great Towns ..	27·0	14·9	1·59	128
142 Smaller towns ..	26·0	14·0	1·26	124
England and Wales, less the 218 towns ..	26·2	14·7	0·99	110
Poole ..	26·6	13·8	1·21	98·8

From this table it will be seen that the birth-rate of Poole, although lower than last year, is higher than that of the 142 smaller towns; the death-rate, zymotic death-rate, and infantile mortality rate are considerably lower than those of England and Wales.

PHTHISIS caused 41 deaths, as compared with 32 deaths in 1907, and 41 in 1906. The death-rate was 1·24, which is higher than that from all the infectious diseases put together. Other tubercular diseases, including tubercular meningitis and tubercular peritonitis, caused 17 deaths, with a death-rate of ·51 per 1000.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES other than Phthisis caused 72 deaths; in 1907 there were 58; in 1906, 73. The death-rate from these in 1908 was 2·15; these deaths included 36 from bronchitis (13 in children under 1 year of age), 24 from pneumonia (16 of which occurred in children under 5 years of age), 1 from pleurisy, and 11 from asthma and congestion of the lungs.

CANCER caused 27 deaths, as compared with 25 in 1907, and 36 in 1906. The death-rate was ·87 per 1000.

HEART DISEASES —There were 50 deaths in 1908, with a death-rate of 15 per 1000. In 1907, 40 were notified.

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The diseases that must be compulsorily notified under the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act, 1889, to the Medical Officer of Health, are small-pox, cholera, diphtheria and membranous croup, erysipelas, scarlet fever or scarlatina, typhus, typhoid or enteric, relapsing, continued, and puerperal fevers.

I must ask medical practitioners in the Borough to be more prompt in sending in notifications, as in some cases time is lost by the sanitary officials in disinfecting or in stopping children from attending school. The clause of the Act says, "Every medical practitioner attending on or called to visit the patient shall *forthwith* on becoming aware that the patient is suffering from an infectious disease to which this Act applies, send to the Medical Officer of Health a certificate stating name of patient, age, the situation of the building, and the infectious disease from which in his opinion the patient is suffering." There is a 40/- penalty for failing to send the notice or certificate as required. If the medical man will write on the certificate, whether he considers the case suitable for removal to the infectious hospital, valuable time may be saved.

The total number of notifications received during 1908 was 98, comprising : 44 diphtheria, 6 of erysipelas, 42 of scarlet fever, and 6 of enteric fever. In 1907, the number was 93, and in 1906, 106. I give a table for comparison for the last four years.

	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.
Small-pox -	—	—	—	5
Scarlet Fever -	42	23	27	29
Diphtheria -	44	49	33	20
Erysipelas -	6	7	19	28
Enteric Fever -	6	13	27	39
Puerperal Fever -	—	1	—	—
	98	93	106	121

The numbers notified in the different parishes for years 1905, 1906, 1907 and 1908, are as follows:—

	1908.	1907.	1906.	1905.
Poole (St. James') -	9	11	36	50
Parkstone -	36	19	17	30
Longfleet -	11	16	14	17
Branksome -	39	46	37	18
Hamworthy -	3	1	2	6
	98	93	106	121

It will be seen from these tables that there has been a gradual decrease in infectious disease in the Parish of St. James', and an increase in Parkstone and Branksome. This can be accounted for by the fact that the population of St. James' is about stationary,

whilst at Parkstone and Branksome there is a continual increase of population with young children at a susceptible age for infection.

The following table shews the monthly distribution of infectious cases in the different parishes of the Borough :—

MONTH.	LOCALITY.	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas.	Enteric Fever	TOTAL.
January	Parkstone	1	4	..	..	5
	Branksome	1	3	..	..	4
February	Parkstone	..	1	..	..	1
	Branksome	1	3	..	..	4
March	Parkstone	..	2	..	..	2
	Branksome	1	1	..	..	2
April	Poole	..	..	1	..	1
	Branksome	..	1	..	..	1
May	Parkstone	1	2	..	..	3
	Branksome	..	3	2	..	5
	Longfleet	..	..	1	..	1
June	Parkstone	..	..	..	2	2
	Branksome	1	..	..	..	1
	Longfleet	1	1	..	..	2
July	Parkstone	..	2	..	..	2
	Hamworthy	2	1	..	..	3
August	Poole	1	..	..	..	1
September	Parkstone	4	..	..	..	4
	Branksome	2	2	..	..	4
	Longfleet	3	..	..	..	3
October	Poole	..	..	1	1	2
	Parkstone	1	..	..	..	1
	Branksome	3	2	..	..	5
	Longfleet	..	1	..	..	1
November	Poole	2	..	1	1	4
	Parkstone	5	3	..	..	8
	Branksome	2	1	..	1	4
	Longfleet	2	..	..	..	2
December	Poole	..	1	..	..	1
	Parkstone	1	7	..	..	8
	Branksome	6	3	..	..	9
	Longfleet	1	..	..	1	2
<i>Total</i>		42	44	6	6	98
Not including December	Poole	3	1	3	2	9
	Parkstone	13	21	..	2	36
	Branksome	17	19	2	1	39
	Longfleet	7	2	1	1	11
	Hamworthy	2	1	..	..	3
<i>Total</i>		42	44	6	6	98

SCARLET FEVER.—Forty-two cases were notified, viz., 3 in St. James', 13 in Parkstone, 7 in Longfleet, 17 in Branksome, and 2 at Hamworthy; 35 cases occurred between the ages of 5 and 15. The cases were of a mild type, and in some families three or more children were affected; twenty-one cases were removed to the Alderney Hospital. One child, after six weeks at the hospital, died of acute nephritis. One case was imported from Dorchester.

ERYSIPELAS.—Six cases were notified, all of a very mild type. No fatal cases.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.—Forty-four cases were notified, as compared with 49 in 1907. Of these, one occurred in Poole (St. James'), 21 in Parkstone, 2 in Longfleet, 19 in Branksome, and 1 in Hamworthy. Twenty-four cases were removed to Alderney Hospital, of these eight were fatal.

During the last 20 years there has been a progressive increase in the rate of mortality from diphtheria in England and Wales. The disease used to be regarded as one peculiar to country districts, but its character has now changed, and it is practically always present in towns. This is due to the fact that the diphtheria bacillus is extremely common in towns, and is present in many healthy throats without causing any disease. When, however, the bacilli gain access to an unhealthy throat, for instance, a child's who is suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, they are able to set up the disease known as diphtheria. After the attack is over, and the throat is apparently healthy, the bacilli may still persist in the throat, and the child may be still able to give others the disease. Also healthy children may have the bacilli in the throat, and may hand them on to other children without themselves suffering from the disease. Such cases are known as "carriers," and play an important part in the spread of the disease. The principal conditions that are liable to produce a morbid condition of the throat are chills, bad ventilation, over-heating, excess of sewer gas or ground air into schools, bad drainage and insanitary conveniences. Swabs were taken for bacteriological examination before the cases were discharged from hospital.

TYPHOID OR ENTERIC FEVER.—Six cases were notified during 1908, as compared with 13 in 1907, 27 cases in 1906, and 39 in 1905. These statistics shew a gradual improvement. Two cases were notified in St. James', two in Parkstone, one in Longfleet, and one in Branksome. The two cases at Parkstone were both imported cases. One of the cases at Parkstone, and the one at Longfleet, were fatal.

The following form the history of the six cases:—

- 1—M. Aged 67, Parkstone. Just come home from holiday. No oysters. Notified June 10, died June 16.
- 2—M. Aged 14, Parkstone. Arrived from Lisbon on June 17. No oysters.

- 3—F. Aged 28, St. James'. No oysters.
 4—M. Aged 12, St. James'. No oysters.
 5—M. Aged 53, Branksome. History of eating cooked whelks three weeks before.
 6—F. Aged 38, Longfleet. Attack combined with malarial fever. No history of oysters.

A public notice warning persons of the danger of consuming uncooked shell-fish (oysters, cockles, mussells, &c.), was again issued by me, and posted all over the Borough, in September, at the beginning of the oyster season. There is no doubt many persons were induced to be more careful in seeing that the oysters were fresh and properly cooked. I have no doubt, that after the number of cases which have been notified during past years in the Borough, that there are "typhoid carriers." These persons, who may have had a mild attack years before, and not been bad enough to lay up, unconsciously still pass typhoid bacilli by the urine. By this means, the cause of typhoid epidemics, in several instances, has been ascertained.

DIARRHŒA.—Four deaths were registered, all under one year of age. These cases occurred in bottle-fed babies, and are mostly preventable, being due to the ignorance of the mothers in properly preparing the milk, and allowing it to get sour in the bottle. The disease is more prevalent in a hot dry summer, and is caused by the pollution of the food by dirt and dust. Flies play a very important part in the spread of the disease.

MEASLES.—Cases have been numerous in Branksome and Parkstone. On my advice your authority closed the infants' department of St. Peter's (Parkstone) School from November 5th to November 23rd. Parkstone, Bucklands Road and St. Aldhelm's Infants suffered also in attendance. Eleven deaths occurred, 3 under 1 year of age, 7 between 1 and 5, and 1 over 5 years of age. In my opinion it is not much use closing a day school and allowing the children to congregate together each week at the Sunday School. In the case of day school closure, the Sunday school ought to be closed for the same period.

PHTHISIS.—Forty-one deaths occurred from consumption of the lungs, giving a death-rate of 1·24 per 1000. Seventeen deaths occurred from other tuberculous diseases (tubercular meningitis, tubercular peritonitis), mostly occurring in young children. The total death-rate of all tubercular diseases is therefore 1·75 per 1000, far greater than the death-rate from all the zymotic diseases (1·21). Three deaths occurred in St. James, 11 in Longfleet (including 4 in the Union Infirmary), 12 in Parkstone, 14 in Branksome and 1 in Hamworthy. At Parkstone and Branksome many consumptive patients come to reside, and there is a sanatorium. The most common source of infection is undoubtedly the expectoration, which

has been allowed to become dry. Infection may, however, be derived from infected food, as milk or meat. The danger from meat is much less than that from milk, the former is more generally cooked than the latter. The danger from milk from cows suffering from tuberculosis is very great, as it is the chief food of children, who suffer principally from tuberculosis of the alimentary canal and brain. The frequency with which the tubercle bacillus attacks children may be imagined from the following annual number of deaths among them :—

6000	die of tuberculosis of brain
5300	„ „ intestines
4000	„ „ (general)
1400	„ „ bones and joints

I add a few observations for the information of persons having charge of phthisical patients, especially those coming under the conditions of the Public Health Act (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1908.

PRECAUTIONS FOR CONSUMPTIVE PERSONS.

Consumption is an infectious disease. It is spread chiefly by inhaling the expectoration (spit) of patients which has been allowed to become dry and float about the room as dust.

Do not spit except into receptacles, the contents of which are to be destroyed before they become dry. If this simple precaution is taken, there is practically no danger of infection. The breath of consumptive persons is free from infection except during coughing.

RULES.

- (1) *Expectoration indoors* should be received into small paper bags, or a receptacle, and afterwards *burnt, or into a mug containing water, which can be emptied into the w.c., and then scalded.*
- (2) *Expectoration out-of-doors* should be received into a suitable bottle, to be afterwards washed out with boiling water containing a disinfectant, or into a small paper handkerchief, which is afterwards burnt.
- (3) If ordinary handkerchiefs are ever used for expectoration, they should be *put into boiling water containing a little soda before they have time to become dry.*
- (4) Cleansing of rooms with a damp cloth, particularly of bedrooms occupied by sick persons, should be substituted for dusting and sweeping. Wet sawdust or tea-leaves should be used on the floor.
- (5) Sunlight and fresh air are the greatest enemies of infection. Every patient should sleep with his bedroom window open, and should occupy a separate bedroom. The patient need

not fear going out in any weather if warmly clad. The patient himself is the greatest gainer by the above precautions, as his recovery is retarded and frequently prevented by renewed infection derived from his own expectoration.

- (6) Persons in good health have little reason to fear the infection of consumption. Over-fatigue, intemperance, bad air, dusty occupations, badly ventilated and dirty rooms favour consumption.
-

INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS.

The Borough possesses two Isolation Hospitals—the Alderney Hospital at Newtown, and the Baiter Hospital at Poole.

ALDERNEY HOSPITAL.—During the year 55 cases were admitted, 2 from St. James', 4 from Longfleet, 22 from Parkstone, 17 from Branksome, 9 from the Poole Rural District, and 1 private patient. The cases, with 7 remaining in at the beginning of the year, make a total of 62 patients. Of these 55 cases 27 were diphtheria and membranous croup, and 28 were scarlet fever. One case of scarlet fever and eight cases of diphtheria were fatal. The majority of the fatal cases were hopeless on arrival; the only benefit of removal to the hospital was the protection of other members of the family from infection. The majority of the children being under three years of age, caused a lot of work. I am indebted to the Matron (Mrs. Nippard) and the Nursing Staff for the carrying out of their duties, which at times included both day and night work, to my entire satisfaction. The Wards have been disinfected and whitewashed several times during the year. Cost of Provisions for 62 patients during 1908: groceries, £51 5s. 10d.; milk, £20 5s. 11d.; meat, £17 13s. 10½d.—total, £90 5s. 7½d. Total stay in hospital, 1,529 days; average stay per patient, 24½ days. Average cost per patient (24½ days) £1 9s. 5¾d. Average cost per patient per day, 1s. 1¾d. Two cases admitted as diphtheria were found on bacteriological examination not to be so. Two cases of erythema were sent in as scarlet fever.

The BAITER HOSPITAL has not been opened during the year. It has been kept in reserve as the Port Sanitary Hospital, for the isolation of cases suspicious of cholera among seamen, especially those arriving from infected Russian ports.

WATER SUPPLY.

A very noticeable improvement has taken place in the quality of the water supplied during the last twelve months. The supply has been constant, but during the summer was diminished. The Waterworks Manager informs me that he has received no complaints

as regards its discolouration. The new works at Corfe Mullen are fast approaching completion, and it is anticipated that the new water supply from the chalk will be utilised early in the summer.

The new works carried out during the year are :—

- (1) Service Reservoir at Forest Hill, 1,000,000 gallons capacity (completed).
- (2) Service Reservoir at Constitution Hill, 500,000 gallons capacity.
- (3) Service Reservoir at Lytchett, now in course of construction.
- (4) Well at Corfe Mullen. This is now completed, and the engine-house and other buildings in connection therewith are well in hand. The whole of the new lines of pipes are laid, and have been thoroughly tested.

Below is Dr. Thresh's report and analysis of the new water supply taken from the well at Corfe Mullen :—

“ 24/8/1908.

“ The water has all the characteristics of a chalk supply, the chief salt present being calcium carbonate (chalk). There is comparatively little sulphates and chlorides, and the nitrates are so low that it can be said that the water is derived from land not markedly affected by manuring. There is a barely detectable trace of iron and alumina. The hardness in Clarke's is $18\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, which is about the average for pure chalk waters, and about $12\frac{1}{2}$ degrees is removed by boiling.

The organic matter present in the water is so small as to bring the sample into the category of waters of the highest organic purity. Probably a purer water does not occur in nature.

The bacteriological examination shows that the water does not contain an excessive number of bacteria, and I think that after a time it will contain still fewer.

The bacteria found do not indicate pollution by sewage or manurial matter.

I am of opinion therefore that it is a water which is admirably adapted for all the purposes of a public supply. The only possible objection to it is its hardness, but this is common to all the chalk waters, save in a few localised areas.

The Corporation is to be congratulated upon securing such an abundant supply of water of such excellent quality.

JOHN C. THRESH.

12th August, 1908.”

DATA.

Respecting a sample of water from W. Matthews, Esq., labelled Corfe Mullen water, Poole Waterworks, taken by Mr. Matthews.

Particulars of source at 1.30 p.m. on August 7th, 1908, from outlet of pump delivery.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATION.

Turbidity: Quite clear and bright. No deposit of any kind.
Colour:—The blue tint of pure chalk water. Odour:—None.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION.

Determinations.	Results in	
	Grains per gallon.	Parts per 100,000.
Total Solid Matter dried at 180 degrees C. ...	21.3	30.5
Chlorine	2.1	3.0
Equivalent to Chlorides (60% Cl)	3.5	5.0
Nitric Nitrogen	0.07	0.11
Equivalent to Nitrates (17% N.)	0.42	0.66
Nitrites	Absent.	
Hardness: Permanent 6 degrees, Temporary		
12½ degrees,	Total 18½ deg.	26½ deg.
Lead, Copper, Zinc, Iron	{ A very minute trace of iron.	
Free Ammonia	0.0000	0.000
Organic Ammonia... ..	0.0007	0.001
Oxygen absorbed at 98 F. in 3 hours	0.0056	0.008

JOHN C. THRESH,
August 11th, 1908.

SALINE CONSTITUENTS.—PROBABLE COMBINATIONS.

	Parts per 100,000.
Calcium Carbonate	21.25
Calcium Sulphate	2.55
Magnesium Sulphate	0.85
Magnesium Chloride	1.60
Sodium Chloride	3.00
Sodium Nitrate	0.60
Silica	0.50
Iron oxide and alumina, &c. ...	0.15

Total solid constituents dried at 180° c. ... 30.50

Report on the Bacteriological Examination of a sample of water received on August 7, 1908, from W. Matthews, Esq.:—

Source: Corfe Mullen well of Poole Corporation Waterworks.

Number of organisms per c.c. capable of growing on alkaline nutrient jelly at 20° c. 92. Some liquifying in 3 days. Counted by aid of pocket lens. rapidly.

Number growing on again in 24 hrs at 37.6°c.	27.
Smallest quantity of water in which growth occurred, with production of acid and gas in bile-salt glucose broth (1, 5, 10 or 20 c.c.)	No acid or gas in 1 c.c. Acid and gas in 10 c.c.
Nature of organisms found in this growth	A bacillus showing some relationship to the bacillus coli in 5 c.c. and upwards.
Reaction of the bacillus enteritidis sporogones	
in 10 c.c.	Negative.
in 50 c.c.	Negative.
in 100 c.c.	Negative.

(Signed) JOHN C. THRESH.

SEWERAGE, DRAINAGE, AND EXCREMENT DISPOSAL.

The system of sewerage has worked well. Complaints have been received of offensive gases given off from certain vent pipes. Webb's patent ventilating lamps have been fixed, with beneficial results. A new sewer has been laid to connect Sterte with the Wimborne Road sewer; the houses on the Sterte estate will soon be connected up, and the objectionable cesspools done away with. The sewer has been continued along the Wimborne Road as far as the Oakdale School, which is now connected up. Sea-View Road, Balston and Hermitage Road, Davis Road, Library Road, Shillito Road and Gladstone Road, in the Branksome district, have been sewered, many of the houses connected, and the cesspools done away with.

I am indebted to Mr. Newman, Borough Surveyor, for the following particulars:—

SEWERS LAID.

<i>By Corporation.</i> —Soil Sewers	...	4,775 yards.
Surface Sewers	...	2,816 yards.
<i>By Private Owners.</i> —Soil Sewers	...	1,979 yards.
Surface Sewers	...	823 yards.

Three additional Webb's patent ventilating lamps have been fixed in connection with the sewers.

318 old premises and 102 new have been connected to the public sewers.

147 houses and 90 other buildings have been erected.

2 additional covered house-refuse carts have been obtained.

The work done by the Sanitary Officials *re* Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops, Slaughter-houses, Bakehouses, Common Lodging-houses, Housing of the Working Classes Act, Factory, and Food and Drugs Act, &c., is contained in the report of Mr. R. Smith, Chief

Sanitary Inspector. During the year, the house-to-house inspection has been continued; many defects have been found, the owners written to, and alterations required done. With the Inspectors I have made systematic inspection of the borough. I have visited bakehouses, cowsheds, dairies, slaughter-houses, common lodging-houses, laundries and workshops. Special visits have been made to schools in which cases of infectious or contagious disease have occurred, and to the houses at which infectious disease has been notified.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS ORDER OF 1885.—Regulations under this Order have been adopted by your Council, and came into force on the 1st day of April, 1908. Copies were sent to all occupiers of registered premises. In some instances great improvement has been found in the cowsheds; several, found defective either as to light, ventilation, or air-space, on our previous inspections, have been remedied. I wish to draw the attention of dairymen particularly to the following regulation, which may be practised in our presence, but is generally neglected:—

“He shall not cause or suffer any cow belonging to him or under his care or control to be milked for the purpose of obtaining milk for sale—

(a) Unless, at the time of milking, the udder and teats of such cow are *thoroughly* clean, and—

(b) Unless the *hands* of the person milking such cow, also, are *thoroughly* clean and free from infection and contamination.”

At our next inspection, dairymen not carrying out these regulations will be reported to the Sanitary Committee.

Then, about milk-cans, which as they become old are liable to be dinged in, so that they cannot be properly cleansed, leaving rusty patches inside. The lids do not fit well, thus leaving them insufficiently protected from contamination from dust and flies. I should like to suggest to milk purveyors that clear glass bottles, fitted with cardboard cork, should be used, as the cans get worn out. These are used by up-to-date firms, and the cost is not more than that of metal cans. Many persons use the cans for ale and other commodities, after the milk has been emptied out.

The necessity of keeping the flanks, udders and teats of the cows free from dirt is brought to notice by the Third Interim Report of the Royal Commission on Tuberculosis. The Report says:—“The presence of tubercle bacilli in the milk of cows clinically recognisable as tuberculous confirms the opinion we expressed in our second interim report that the milk of such cows must be considered dangerous for human beings. The experiments which we have carried out with regard to the infectivity of the faeces of tuberculous cows were dictated by knowledge of the fact that dirt of

various kinds from cows and the cowshed is almost constantly present in milk as it reaches the consumer. Cows suffering from extensive tuberculosis of the lungs must discharge considerable numbers of bacilli from the air passages in the act of coughing, and some of the bacilli thus expelled may find their way into the milk. But our experiments indicate that the excrement of cows obviously suffering from tuberculosis of the lungs and alimentary canal must be regarded as much more dangerous than the matter discharged from the mouth and nostrils. We have found that even in the case of cows with slight tuberculous lesions tubercle bacilli in small numbers are discharged in the faeces, while as regards cows clinically tuberculous, our experiments show that the faeces contain large numbers of living and virulent tubercle bacilli. The presence of tuberculous cows in company with healthy cows in the cowshed is therefore distinctly dangerous, as some of the tubercle bacilli which escape from their bodies in the excrement are almost certain to find their way in the milk."

Your Council has given permission to the Sanitary Officials to call in the Borough Veterinary Surgeon, to see any cows found by us to be suspicious of having tuberculosis. The diagnosis of tuberculosis in a living cow depends entirely on the positive result of the tuberculin test.

From this report, it is incumbent on dairymen who pride themselves on the purity of their milk that both the men who milk have clean hands and smocks, and the cows themselves are groomed each day.

I should like to draw the attention of the public to the fact that certain milk vendors in the Borough add colouring matters to their milk. Annatto and turmeric are often added to milk to impart a yellow colour to it, and thus bring about an unnatural appearance of richness. Their use gives opportunity, therefore, for the abstraction of cream. The addition of these colouring agents, though harmless, is an adulteration, and should not be allowed.

The bake-houses, on the whole, are kept clean, and the regulations as to white-washing, painting, &c., carried out. I find, however, in some of them hundreds of flies accumulate, especially as the weather gets colder. In some yards of those bakers who have stables, the manure heaps—where flies principally hatch—are very near the bake-houses. As the house fly is now known to be one of the chief disseminators of infectious disease, by contaminating food and drink, I ask bakers to have a regular killing day, so as to get rid of as many of these pests as possible. When it is stated that flies have been found to be the carriers of infection in infantile diarrhœa, typhoid, diphtheria, phthisis, and many other diseases, it will be understood how necessary it is that articles of food should not be left exposed. It is for this reason that infectious cases occur most frequently in the houses of the poor and careless, who leave

food about on the table from morning to night, and in many cases have no suitable place to store it.

The slaughter-houses are on the whole kept in a cleanly state. Visits of inspection have been frequently paid during the year.

The common lodging-houses have been kept clean, and have been whitewashed regularly. I have had no complaints of overcrowding.

The butchers' shops and sausage-makers' establishments have been visited very often.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS ACT, 1901.—There are 366 registered workshops in the Borough (240 workshops, 84 domestic workshops, and 42 bake-houses)—an increase of 32. These have been inspected on 717 occasions; 32 defects have been found and remedied. Want of cleanliness, 16; overcrowding, 2; want of drainage of floors, 1; other nuisances, 4; insufficient sanitary accommodation, 1; defective, 7; not separate for sexes, 1.

Outworkers' Lists.—As these lists are sent in at irregular times, and often forgotten, I wish to draw the attention of Employers to the following extract from the Factory and Workshop Act:—

“In order that the Council may be kept fully informed as to the places in its district in which home-work is being done, occupiers of factories, workshops, or any place from which work is given out, and contractors employed by such occupiers, are required, in regard to such classes of work as may be fixed by the Secretary of State, to keep lists showing the names and addresses of all persons employed by them, either as workmen or as contractors outside such factory, workshop or place, and the place where they are employed, and to *send* to the Council *twice* a year (*viz.*, on or before the 1st of February and the 1st of August) copies of such lists.

In the event of any occupier failing to keep or to send such lists he will be liable to a fine of £2 for the first offence, and to a fine of £5 for a second or subsequent offence.”

HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES ACT.—Under this Act, several properties have been reported to your Council as not fit for human habitation. Six houses in Taylor's Buildings have been closed. Six houses in Hill Alley have been demolished, after a closing order had been granted. A block of houses in Pile Court and Russell Place was found to be unfit for habitation, and after notice was served on the owners, the houses were repaired and made habitable.

DISINFECTION.—Premises in which notifiable diseases have occurred have been disinfected by formalin immediately after the patient's removal to hospital, or on the convalescence of the patient. Several rooms have been disinfected after cases of phthisis. Bedding

has been destroyed, and compensation paid in special cases. I must again draw your attention to the need of a steam disinfecter. This was the chief point raised by Dr. Reece, Medical Inspector of the Local Government Board, on his visit to inquire into the preparedness of the Port Sanitary Authority to resist the invasion of cholera, which has continued to spread during the summer months in the Russian and Baltic ports.

The librarians of the branches of the Borough Free Libraries will be notified of all cases of infectious disease, so that they can have all books lent disinfected on return, and not issue books to infected houses. All borrowers, in case of a case of infectious disease occurring in their houses, ought to return books at once, with an explanatory letter to the librarians, and not borrow any till after the convalescence of the patient.

I have to acknowledge the valuable assistance rendered me during the year by Mr. R. Smith, Jun., the Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Mr. Ramsden, Assistant Inspector.

I wish to congratulate your Council on the many measures carried out by you for the amelioration of the sanitary condition of the Borough, viz. :—

- (1) The completion of the purchase of the Poole Water Company, and the finding of a new supply of water of the purest quality at Corfe Mullen.
- (2) The Sterte Sewerage Scheme, the Wimborne Road and Branksome Sewerage Schemes, thus doing away with many cesspools, which were always causing a nuisance.

I should like to call the attention of the Council, *firstly*, to the Public Baths at Baiter. Whatever scheme is brought forward, there is no doubt the present baths are required for the district in which they are situated. These baths are used each day in the season by hundreds of schoolboys. Better dressing accommodation and the provision of towels are required. *Secondly*, to the condition of the Fish Shambles. This building, in which practically a great part of the fish trade of the neighbourhood is carried on, ought to be enlarged and put in a more sanitary state.

The question of public conveniences is being considered by your Council; there is great need for accommodation for female visitors.

I have again to report that our birth-rate is slightly above that of England and Wales. Our death-rate, zymotic death-rate, and especially the infantile death-rate, are much lower than the corresponding rates of the 142 smaller towns of England and Wales.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE H. CARRINGTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Sanitary Department.

To the Mayor and Town Council of the Borough of Poole.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Sanitary work executed in the Borough during the year 1908. The premises registered in the Borough are :—

Bake-houses ...	...	...	42
Slaughter-houses	...	...	17
Cowsheds ...	...	...	36
Milk Shops ...	...	...	66
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	4
Workshops and Work-places	...	...	240
Domestic Workshops	...	...	84
			<hr/>
			489
			<hr/>

The BAKE-HOUSES have been inspected several times during the year and found to be generally kept in a satisfactory condition ; there has been very little change in the general condition.

The Factory and Workshops Act, 1901, require that these should be limewashed twice each year.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—These are visited frequently ; generally a slight improvement was noticed in the various premises.

One gut-scraper's place in West Quay Road was found to be quite a nuisance. The occupier was advised to remove to a country district in a less populous locality, which he did, the premises now being void.

The Borough Byelaws require that these premises shall be limewashed quarterly, and the offal removed daily.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.—A great improvement has been made in one of the cowsheds at Parkstone, a new one has been erected at Hamworthy, and one at Longfleet has been put in good repair.

It will be necessary in several other cases to improve the lighting and ventilation of some of the older sheds in the Borough.

In two dairies during the year a cow was suspected of being diseased ; the attention of the owner was called to the fact, with the result that one was sent away for destruction and the other was declared to be free from Tuberculosis.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—Surprise visits are made to the common lodging-houses; they are kept reasonably well. No complaints have been received with regard to these during the year.

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE INSPECTION.—376 visits have been made with a view to detecting nuisances, overcrowding and defective sanitary arrangements; whenever found to be necessary, written notices of defects and the required remedy have been sent to the owner of the property.

SANITARY CERTIFICATES.—Thirty-eight guineas have been received during the year for special inspection of houses. The various houses have been inspected, the drainage tested, and reports sent to the applicant; the defects requiring attention chiefly consisted of leaky drains, defective ventilating pipes and untrapped waste pipes.

Certificates have been granted for those houses put in a satisfactory sanitary condition.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.—Under these Acts, 116 samples of food and drugs were purchased and submitted to the Public Analyst. Five cases of adulteration were reported by the Analyst. Two milk-sellers were prosecuted, and the others were cautioned, as the adulteration was of a slight nature. One milk-seller who refused to sell a sample of milk was prosecuted and fined 10s. and costs.

UN SOUND AND DISEASED FOOD—2,106 lbs. of diseased meat have been destroyed during the year; this meat was surrendered by the owners for inspection and destruction excepting two lots that were seized. This occurred in the early part of the year. Prosecution and conviction followed in each of these cases.

Two bags of cockles weighing 1 cwt. and 15 boxes of bloaters were also destroyed, being unwholesome and unfit for the food of man.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT.—The Swine Fever (Regulation of Movement) Order, 1903, was revoked in June, 1908, and a new Order came into force. Under the new Order there are very few restrictions with regard to the Movement of Swine. Prior to June, 253 licenses were issued.

In August a suspected case of Rabies occurred at Parkstone. The dog died, and was examined by the Borough Veterinary Surgeon, who pronounced it a case of distemper.

There was no outbreak of Swine Fever during the year.

CESSPOOLS.—The cesspools during the first half of the year throughout the Borough were emptied by contract. Since Midsummer the Branksome portion of the Borough has been attended to by our own men. The number emptied was—

Branksome ...	...	...	2396
Other parts ...	...	...	832

The cost of the first half-year amounted to £550.

The cost of the second half-year amounted to £522.

The cost includes Hamworthy work, and the purchase of new plant.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. SMITH, A.R.S.I.,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.



TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during the Year 1908 and previous years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents Registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of residents Registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District	
		No.	*Rate	Under 1 year.	At all ages.		No.				*Rate	
					No.	*Rates						No.	*Rate.
1906	32000	961	30	114	118.6	485	15.1	55	12	..	473	14.7
1907	32500	895	27.5	68	75.9	427	13.1	41	10	..	417	12.7
Averages for years 1906-7.		928	28.75	91	97.25	456	14.1	48	11	..	445	13.7
1908	33000	880	26.6	87	98.8	457	13.8	57	10	1	448	13.5

*Rates calculated at per 1000 of estimated population.

Institutions within the district receiving sick and infirm persons from outside the district—	<div> <div>Poole Union Infirmary.</div> <div>Cornelia Hospital.</div> <div>Infectious Hospitals.</div> </div>	<div> <div>Institutions outside the district receiving sick and infirm persons from the district—</div> <div>Weymouth Union Workhouse.</div> </div>
---	---	---

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1907-8.

Names of Localities.	Year.	Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births Registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under one year.
Poole (St. James')	1907	8000	221	116	27
ditto ..	1908	8050	219	92	32
Longfleet ..	1907	4950	113	81	9
ditto ..	1908	5050	125	102	11
Parkstone ..	1907	8100	198	123	13
ditto ..	1908	8300	189	110	12
Branksome ..	1907	9950	319	89	18
ditto ..	1908	10050	316	141	31
Hamworthy ..	1907	1500	44	18	1
ditto ..	1908	1550	31	12	1

TABLE III.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1908.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	No. of Cases notified in the whole District.						Total Cases notified in each Locality.					No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.						
	At all ages.	At Ages—Years.					Poole (St. James)	Longfleet	Parkstone	Branksome	Hamworthy	Poole (St. James)	Longfleet	Parkstone	Branksome	Hamworthy	Total cases removed to Hospital	
		Under 1	1—5	5—15	15—25	25—65												65 and upwards.
Diphtheria	44	..	11	27	4	2	..	1	2	21	19	1	..	1	14	9	..	24
Erysipelas	6	..	..	..	2	4	..	3	1	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	42	1	10	25	2	4	..	3	7	13	17	2	2	3	8	8	..	21
Enteric Fever	6	..	..	2	3	1	1	2	1	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	98	1	21	54	8	13	1	9	11	36	39	3	2	4	22	17	..	45

Isolation Hospitals at Baiter and Alderney.

Total available beds, 34.

Number of diseases that can be concurrently treated, 4.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1908.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Deaths in the whole District at subjoined ages.					Deaths in Localities at all ages.									
	All ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	Poole St. James	Longfleet	Parkstone	Branksome	Hamworthy	Isolation Hospital	Cornelia Hospital	Union Hospital
Measles ..	11	3	7	1	..	..	..	1	..	4	6	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Whooping Cough ..	12	5	6	1	..	..	..	2	2	4	4	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	10	..	3	7	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	8	..	..
Enteric Fever ..	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza ..	7	1	..	..	1	3	2	..	..	4	3	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea ..	4	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Enteritis ..	9	6	..	..	..	..	3	5	1	1	2	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ..	41	..	1	3	4	32	1	3	7	12	14	1	..	..	4
Other tuberculous diseases ..	17	6	6	3	1	1	..	5	2	4	3	1	..	1	1
Cancer, malignant disease ..	27	..	..	..	..	12	15	6	4	6	6	2	..	..	3
Bronchitis ..	36	13	1	2	..	9	11	9	5	4	12	1	..	..	5
Pneumonia ..	24	6	10	1	1	3	3	4	3	5	9	..	..	3	..
Pleurisy ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs ..	11	1	..	..	..	3	7	2	..	2	7	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism—Cirrhosis of liver ..	3	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Premature birth ..	17	17	..	..	..	..	..	6	2	1	6	1	..	..	1
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition ..	2	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
Heart diseases ..	50	..	..	4	1	21	24	7	1	21	16	1	..	3	1
Accidents ..	2	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
Suicides ..	2	1	..	..	..	2	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes ..	168	24	8	4	5	45	82	37	25	38	39	5	..	3	21
All causes ..	457	87	43	26	13	135	153	92	54	110	132	12	9	12	36

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1908.

DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.																		
CAUSES OF DEATH.	DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES IN WEEKS AND MONTHS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.																	Total Deaths under one year.
	Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1—2 Months	2—3 Months	3—4 Months	4—5 Months	5—6 Months	6—7 Months	7—8 Months	8—9 Months	9—10 Months	10—11 Months	11—12 Months		
All Causes { Certified Uncertified	16 2	7 ..	3 ..	5 ..	31 2	12 ..	6 ..	6 ..	6 ..	4 ..	3 1	2 1	3 ..	2 ..	4 ..	3 1	82 5	
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	3
Whooping Cough	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
Diarrhoea, all forms	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	4
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	5
Gastritis	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature Births	10	3	1	2	16	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17
Congenital Defects	2	2	..	..	4	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Injury at Birth	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Atrophy	..	..	1	..	1	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Tuberculous Peritonitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	4
Convulsions	3	2	..	1	3	3	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	7
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	3	3	1	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	6
Suffocation, overlying	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Other Causes	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	4
	18	7	3	5	33	12	6	6	6	4	4	3	3	2	4	4	87	

Births in the year: Legitimate, 842; Illegitimate, 38.

Deaths in the year: Legitimate Infants, 82; Illegitimate Infants, 5.

TABLE VI.

REPORT ON THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901,
IN CONNECTION WITH
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, LAUNDRIES & WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

No. of Inspections of Workshops (including Workshop Laundries) and Workplaces	717
---	-----

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

	No. found.	No. remedied.
Want of Cleanliness	16	16
Overcrowding	2	2
Want of drainage of floors	1	1
Other Nuisances	4	4
Sanitary accommodation { insufficient	1	1
{ unsuitable or defective	7	7
{ not separate for sexes	1	1
	—	—
	32	32

3.—HOME WORK.

Making Wearing Apparel—No. of Lists received from Employers	9
No. of Out-workers	50
No. of Addresses of Out-workers received from other Councils	8
No. of Inspections of Out-workers' premises	12
Notices served	1

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

No. of Workshops on the Register at the end of the year	240
(Domestic) " "	84
No. of Bakehouses on the Register " "	42
	—
	366

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	7
Notified by H.M. Inspector (under Public Health Act)	4
Underground Bakehouses in use at the end of the year	1

To the Port Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my sixth Annual Report as Port Medical Officer of Health for the year 1908.

I have much pleasure in being able to give a most satisfactory account of the health of the Seamen of the Mercantile Marine. No case of infectious disease has occurred amongst them during the year.

The number of vessels with "inwards" cargoes was—

Coasting trade	...	Sail, 288 ; 20,327 tons.
"	...	Steam, 347 ; 72,981 ,,
Foreign	...	Sail, 71 ; 10,892 ,,
"	...	Steam, 49 ; 10,175 ,,

Many of the coasting ships pay frequent visits—often weekly—during the year.

The chief ports from which the foreign vessels sail are Harbours, Antwerp, Hamburg, St. Brieux, Fredericksstadt, Erdingen, Cronstadt, Archangel, Helsingfors.

The principal cargoes are timber from Russian, Norwegian, and Swedish ports, oilcake, onions and potatoes.

Owing to the prevalence of cholera in St. Petersburg and Cronstadt, word was sent to me of the expected arrival of any ship from those ports by the Superintendent of Customs. Strict inquiries were made by the Customs Officer about any illness on board. If there had been any suspicious cases, the officer would have had the ship moored at the Quarantine Station, which is situated in the Wareham channel, to the west of Stakes Buoy.

No sickness being found on any of the ships, they were allowed to proceed to their berths, and were then boarded, and the crew and ship inspected by me.

It was found in the cases of the s.s. "Salme" from Norbor, the "Viking" from Helsingfors, and the "Sandsend" from Kronstadt, that no cases of sickness had occurred during the passage, which took about 10 days. They were provided with water tanks on deck. In the case of the "Viking," the water was from the town supply of Helsingfors; she did not call at any intermediate port. The "Sandsend," from Kronstadt, was medically inspected at Holtenau, and took in fresh water.

Whilst in the port, the tanks were emptied, cleaned out, and filled with the town's water, of which there is always a constant supply from the mains on the Quay.

The "Salme" arrived on September 7th, the "Viking" on September 20th, and the "Sandsend" on October 19th.

The number of ships inspected by the Sanitary Officials was 244 ; in 1907, 179.

The ships were classified as—

	Good.	Fair.	Dirty.	Total.
British ...	169	20	7	196
Foreign ...	41	3	4	48
	<hr/> 210	<hr/> 23	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 244

In those marked “dirty” the chief cause of complaint was the dirty condition of the fore-castle floors and the painted work. Some allowance is to be made for the kind of cargo discharging or loading ; it is difficult to keep a ship clean, when in port, whilst discharging coal or loading clay.

Requests made to Masters to cleanse fore-castles, closets, &c. :—

British ...	...	...	...	5
Foreign ...	...	...	...	3
Water ordered to be pumped out, tanks cleansed, and fresh water supplied ...				4
Broken fireplaces and flues ...				2
Leaky deck lights ...				1
Ventilators covered with canvas ...				10

These were in all cases complied with. With the Inspector, I have visited many of the ships, and during the cholera scare visited each ship from the Baltic ports as soon as it was berthed. I have also visited the Excursion Steamers of Messrs. Cozens & Co. and the Southampton Steamship Company, and have always found them clean, well cared for, and the sanitary conditions up-to-date.

I have received particulars from Port Medical Officers of Health, principally Southampton, of passengers and sailors discharged from ships which have had infectious cases on board. These have been visited at their homes, and inquiries made.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE H. CARRINGTON,

Port Medical Officer of Health.

SAVOY HOUSE,
STRAND, W.C.

February 16th, 1909.

REPORT ON WORK AS PUBLIC ANALYST FOR 1908.

During the year 1908, 116 samples were submitted for analysis by Inspector R. Smith. This total was made up of 63 milks, 26 butters, 1 flour, 5 coffees, 1 vinegar, 3 peppers, 3 jams, 1 camphorated oil, 8 liquorice powders, and 5 Gregory's powders. Of these, five were returned as adulterated, giving a per centage of adulteration of 4·3. The five samples reported against consisted of four milks and one butter. The butter contained 18·5 per cent. of water, an excess of 2·5 per cent. over that allowed by the Butter Regulations. One sample of butter was sold as "milk blended," and contained 24 per cent. of water, which is just the amount allowed in this article. Eight butters, including the milk blended butter referred to, contained borates, but in no case was the limit of 0·5 per cent. of boric acid suggested by the Departmental Committee on Food Preservatives exceeded.

The adulterated milks contained respectively 8 per cent. added water, 12 per cent. added water, 6 per cent. added water, and 3 per cent. of milk deprived of its fat.

The fourteen samples of drugs were carefully examined, and so far as a chemical analysis could discover had all been carefully prepared in accordance with the composition prescribed in the British Pharmacopœia.

C. G. MOOR, M.A., F.I.C.,

Public Analyst.

COUNTY OF DORSET.

THE URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF POOLE.

*Return relating to Sanitary Work within the above District during
the year ending 31st December, 1908.*

No. of Complaints received during the year	...	...	67
No. of Inspections of Houses, Premises, &c.	...	...	2237

Results of Inspections—

Orders issued for Sanitary Amendment of houses and premises	249
Houses, premises, &c., cleaned, repaired, whitewashed, &c.	17
Houses disinfected after infectious illness	98

House Drains—

New provided	...	...	...	176
Repaired, cleaned, trapped, &c.	...	...	...	167

Water Closets—New provided	...	...	...	5
Water supplies provided	...	...	...	1

Miscellaneous—

Removal of accumulations of manure and other refuse	...	13
Animals removed, being improperly kept	...	1
Cases of overcrowding	...	1
No. of Lodging houses registered	...	4
Legal proceedings (summonses)	...	6
Visits to registered premises	...	2353

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. SMITH, A.R.S.I.,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

